

Course description

General information		
Instructor	Zoran Grozdanov, Assistant professor	
Course title	Social Engagement of the Church	
Study Programme	University Undergraduate Programme in Protestant theology	
Type of course	Mandatory	
Year of study	First	
Number of credits and class hours	ECTS credits	3
	Class hours (L+E+S)	2+0+0

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION
<p>1.1. <i>Course Objectives</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The objective of this course is to introduce students to models and modes of social and political engagement of the Church in various socio-political and historical contexts. Special attention is paid to the social and political engagement of Churches in Croatia.</p>
<p>1.2. <i>Prerequisite</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">There are no prerequisites for this course.</p>
<p>1.3. <i>Learning outcomes for the Programme the course belongs to</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate understanding of the correlation between theology and other humanities and social sciences. 2. Put forward substantiated arguments and propose solutions to problems related to the dialogue between Christian theology and philosophy, culture, and science. 3. Apply the acquired knowledge to evaluate the role of the Church and Christianity in the life of the humanity and society of today. 4. Critically assess individual segments in the relationship between the Church and the contemporary individual and society. 5. Assess, based on the acquired knowledge, the significance and relevance of Christianity in the interreligious context, as well as in its relationship to the society, culture, and science. 6. Reach conclusions, based on the acquired knowledge, about the significance of Protestantism in the contexts of Christian ecumenism and interreligious dialogue, as well as about the relationship of Protestantism to society, culture, and science. 7. Reason for the importance of theology in the contemporary society, culture, and scholarship. 8. Independently and jointly with other experts and participants, put forward ideas and propose solutions in one's ecclesial and/or social community.
<p>1.4. <i>Learning Outcomes</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. identify the principal models of socio-political engagement of the Church;

2. identify the limits and possibilities of the engagement of the Church in liberal-democratic political systems;
3. describe and compare various models of the social and political engagement of Churches
4. assess the differences between institutional engagement and the engagement of believers in society;
5. critically evaluate the differences between the engagement of Churches in areas where their members constitute the minority of the population, and areas where their members constitute the majority of the population;
6. critically discuss the importance of the engagement of Churches.

1.5. Course Content:

1. Introduction to the learning outcomes and modes of teaching for the course
2. The model of the Church as a 'community called to serve'
3. Various concepts of the Church and society
4. The contemporary paradigm shift – autonomy of the Church, and autonomy of the social and political community
5. The Church as the agent of the Kingdom of God
6. The value system of the ecclesial community
7. Engagement of the ecclesial community's values in plural and liberal-democratic political communities
8. The 'social withdrawal model' and the 'social engagement model'
9. Models of the social engagement of majority churches and minority churches
10. Political liberalism and the ecclesial criticism of the relativization of values in political communities
11. The distinctiveness of the understanding of the role of churches in transition processes in post-communist countries
12. The relationship between the institutional engagement of the Church and the engagement of individual believers
13. Particular issues of engagement: migration, social equality, family
14. Final review and discussion

1.6. Modes of Teaching

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> x lectures <input type="checkbox"/> seminars and workshops <input type="checkbox"/> exercises x remote learning <input type="checkbox"/> field teaching | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> homework assignments x multimedia and internet <input type="checkbox"/> laboratory work <input type="checkbox"/> mentored work <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ — |
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1.7. Comments

1.8. Course Requirements

Active participation in discussions during class, regular reading assignments.

1.9. Course Assessment ¹							
Class attendance		Active participation in class	0.5	Term paper		Experimental work	
Written exam		Oral exam	2.5	Essay		Research	
Project		Quizzes		Written report		Practical work	
Portfolio							
1.10. Grading structure during lectures and on the final exam							
Students' participation will be monitored during the course of the semester. Attendance is mandatory. The final exam is in oral form.							
1.11. Mandatory Resources							
1) M. VOLF, <i>Javna vjera: kršćani i opće dobro</i> , Ex libris, Rijeka, 2013. 2) S. HAUERWAS, <i>The Resident Aliens</i> , Abingdon Press, Nashville, 1989.							
1.12. Additional Resources							
1) S. M. LEWIS - T. WIESER, <i>Democratic contracts for sustainable and caring societies: what can churches and Christian communities do?</i> , Geneva, WCC Publications, 2000. 2) G. ROECKLE, <i>Diakonische Kirche</i> , Neukirchen, Neukirchener Verlag, 1990. 3) L. VINCETIĆ, "Crkva u postkomunizmu", <i>Erasmus</i> 3/1993, str. 41-46. 4) J. MARITAIN, <i>Čovjek i država</i> , Zagreb, Globus, Zagreb, 1992. 5) J. MOLTMANN, <i>Diakonie im Horizont des Reiches Gottes</i> , Neukirchen-Vluyn, Neukirchener Verlag, 1984. 6) D. FERGUSSON, <i>Church, State and Civil Society</i> , Cambridge, Cambridge University Press 2004.							
1.13. Number of copies of mandatory resources relative to the number of students currently enrolled							
<i>Title</i>				<i>Number of copies</i>		<i>Number of students</i>	
Resources are available to students in electronic form.							
1.14. Modes of quality control that ensure acquisition of knowledge, skills and competences							
Discussions with students during class, and final exam.							

¹ **IMPORTANT:** Along with every mode of Course Assessment an adequate number of ECTS credits needs to be given, so that the total number of ECTS credits matches the number for the course. Empty fields can be used for additional activities.